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Proposed TEA-21 Reauthorization Second Cycle STP/CMAQ/TE Programming Policy for FY 2005-06 and FY 2006-07

Second Cycle STP/CMAQ/TE Program Programming Policies

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Section I: Background

The federal Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21), which expired on September 30, 2003, authorized the use of federal funds for the Surface Transportation Program (STP), Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ), and Transportation Enhancement Activities (TE) programs on projects across the San Francisco Bay Area between fiscal years 1998-2003. On September 24, 2003 Congress extended TEA-21 legislation for five months and set a new expiry date of February 29, 2004 to keep federal funding for transportation projects flowing. The funding levels included in the extension bill are based upon the funding levels of t he FY 2004 federal budget. A second extension bill was passed on February 27, 2004 that carries forward the policies of TEA-21 until April 30, 2004. Legislative discussions on the composition of the next reauthorization bill are currently being held in Congress and Congress is hopeful about passing a new reauthorization bill before the expiration of the current extension bill.

Distributed among several programming opportunities, TEA-21 authorized the San Francisco Bay Area Region to program approximately \$370 million in Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds, \$326 million in Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) funds, and \$49 million in Transportation Enhancement Activities Program (TE) funds between 1998 and 2003. Approximately \$124 million was available each year over the six-year period of the act, for a total of \$745 million. All of these funds have been fully programmed.

In anticipation of a TEA-21 reauthorization bill, MTC decided to program approximately \$256 million in STP and CMAQ funds in a new programming cycle, First Cycle (2003-04 and 2004-05). See MTC Resolution Nos. 3536 and 3547 for details on First Cycle programming. The overarching goals behind First Cycle Programming are to meet continued planning needs, the needs of annual operating programs, the needs of air quality programs, and to reconcile overprogramming from TEA-21. Programming for subsequent fiscal years will be consistent with the funding commitments agreed upon through Transportation 2030 (T-2030), the update to the 2001 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).

In December 2003, the MTC Commission reached consensus on Phase 1 level funding commitments in T-2030. Based on these decisions, MTC has the basic framework and direction to proceed with programming projects for FY 2005-06 and 2006-07.

Section II: Regional Six-Year TEA 21 Reauthorization Programming Plan

In October 2002, the Bay Area Partnership and associated committees discussed the six-year plan for programming TEA-21 Reauthorization STP, CMAQ, and TE funding and agreed on a 1 • 2 • 3 programming approach over a total of three cycles. In this original proposal, First Cycle was intended to program one fiscal year of Reauthorization funding, Second Cycle would program two years, and Third Cycle would program the remaining three years of Reauthorization. Since then, developments in the T-2030 Phase 1 decisions and regional funding needs have stimulated a modification to the six - year programming plan for TEA-21 Reauthorization. Since FY 2004-05 STP/CMAQ/TE revenues are not anticipated to substantially exceed the fund estimate assumptions in First Cycle and the redirection of TE into the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), the six-year TEA-21 reauthorization programming plan has been modified. As a result, programming will continue to span

three cycles, but each cycle will consist of two fiscal years worth of programming. The policies set forth herein reflect a 2 • 2 • 2 programming approach to Reauthorization.

The region will continue to program to the full apportionment level rather than Obligation Authority (OA) levels, with the stipulation that obligations for projects programmed in the last year of reauthorization are subject to the availability of OA. Projects funded through First, Second, and Third Cycles are subject to the project delivery policies (MTC Resolution No. 3606) adopted by the MTC Commission in October 2003. The bulk of new programming occurs in FY 2005-06 and beyond. Programming to full apportionment benefits the region with accelerated project delivery, results in lower project costs, and delivery of projects to the public sooner, which outweigh the risks of programming to higher levels than can be obligated in a given year. We have consistently been the beneficiaries of advanced federal obligation authority. However, since the region is programming STP, CMAQ, and TE prior to the reauthorization of TEA-21, Third Cycle programming will serve to balance prior programming activities from First and Second Cycles. This will ensure that the six-year programming is in consistent with the TEA-21 Reauthorization bill.

MTC and the Bay Area Partnership developed a strategy for programming federal and state funds to ensure that a balanced, reasonable mix of high priority transportation projects is achieved at the regional level. Pursuant to that discussion, the following factors must be considered in the development of priorities and procedures for programming STP, CMAQ, and TE funds:

- The diverse nature of the Bay Area transportation system requires multi-modal investments.
- A strategic mix of various fund sources will be required to meet the divergent needs of large versus small projects, and/or differences in the financial capabilities of Partnership sponsors.
- Maintaining and sustaining the existing system through replacement and rehabilitation of its infrastructure, coupled with effective management of that system, are high regional priorities in the RTP and must be provided for.
- This policy document is subject to revision once TEA-21 Reauthorization legislation is passed, but future policies are likely to retain these essential features.
- Projects selected must meet the program criteria of the STP, CMAQ, TE guidelines developed at the State and Federal Levels.
- Per the existing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between MTC and SACOG, Eastern Solano County CMAQ funding will be reserved for projects in the eastern portion of that county. Most of the nine-county MTC region lies within the Bay Area Air Quality Management District's Air Basin. One exception is the Eastern portion of Solano County, which lies within the Yolo/Solano Air Quality Management District's (YSAQMD) air basin. The Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) is responsible for air quality conformity of the YSAQMD's air basin, while MTC has the planning and programming authority for Eastern Solano County. The second exception is the Northern Sonoma air basin, which is an attainment area.

First Cycle

The First Cycle programming covers the minimal amount necessary to ensure a seamless transition

into TEA 21 reauthorization. Funding is programmed to projects with continuous annual funding needs and air quality management strategies, with the remaining balance used to address outstanding programming commitments arising from the OA shortfall from ISTEA and TEA 21. Due to a combination of a) OA limitations in the region, and b) annualized programming requirements for programs with operating or contractual commitments, Cycle One commits anticipated FY 20 03-04 and 2004-05 STP, CMAQ, and TE revenues.

Second Cycle

Second Cycle will program anticipated STP, CMAQ, and TE apportionments for FY 2005 -06 and 2006-07 and any unprogrammed apportionments from FY 2004-05. The recent California Transportation Commission (CTC) decision to redirect the TE funds into the Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) changes the TE funding distribution in the region. Beginning with FY 2003-04, half of the TE funds will be programmed to projects in each County's TLC/HIP program, while the other half will be programmed to TE eligible projects at each county's discretion. All of the TE funded projects will be administered through the RTIP in addition to any other programs the projects may fall under. Please refer to the 2004 RTIP Policies and Procedures for more specific details on the TE funding agreement between the counties and MTC (Resolution No. 3608).

This second cycle includes the "on-going commitment" category of projects, as well as new funding for the identified local streets and road shortfall, transit capital shortfall, regional and county TLC/HIP, Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian, and STIP Backfill funding as confirmed through Transportation 2030 and follow-up discussions between partner agencies. The fiscal climate under which this policy is developed has sparked temporary program adjustments to respond to the lack of available funding to ongoing projects. Several agreements have been incorporated into this policy as a result of the compromises. Specifically, \$5 million from the Regional Operations, \$18 million from the TLC/HIP, and \$8 million from the Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Program will be deferred to Third Cycle for programming. The programming capacity freed up by these deferrals will be dedicated towards backfilling existing STIP projects that are financial casualties of the recent state fiscal crisis. The Commission is expected to adopt Second Cycle programming 2004 and 2005, depending on the readiness of program categories.

Third Cycle

Third Cycle will cover two years of STP, CMAQ, and TE apportionments (FY 2007-08, and FY 2008-09), and include the continued programming of the project categories outlined in the Second Cycle and resulting from T-2030. Additionally, MTC will program the deferred programming from Second Cycle. The Third Cycle will continue to follow the direction adopted in Phase 1 T -2030 and account for any necessary program adjustments from First and Second Cycle activity based on the passage of TEA-21 Reauthorization. It is anticipated that Third Cycle will be programmed by September 30, 2006.

Spillover programming from Second Cycle, due to obligation authority limitations, may need to be accommodated in FY 2007-08 of Third Cycle. Because the region is programming to full apportionment rather than to OA, there may be insufficient OA to obligate all of the projects in the final year of the reauthorization act. Note that obligations for projects programmed in the last year of Cycle Three are subject to the availability of OA. It may therefore be necessary to carry the programming of these projects into the first year of the following transportation act.

The region intends to balance apportionments and obligation authority (OA) limitations of the forthcoming TEA-21 Reauthorization bill through Third Cycle.

Section III: 2005 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Air Quality Conformity

The federally required Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is a comprehensive listing of all San Francisco Bay Area transportation projects that receive federal funds, and/or subject to a federally required action, such as federal environmental clearance, and/or is regionally significant for air quality conformity or modeling purposes. All projects included in the MTC-prepared TIP must be derived from and/or consistent with the long-range transportation plan for the Bay Area, MTC's RTP. Federal regulations also require an opportunity for public comment prior to the TIP or any formal TIP amendment approvals.

Additionally, MTC evaluates the impact of the TIP on regional air quality during the biennial update of the TIP. In the Bay Area, it is the responsibility of MTC to make an air quality conformity determination for the TIP in accordance with federal Clean Air Act requirements and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) conformity regulations. MTC must certify that, taken as a whole, the program of projects included in the TIP will not worsen air quality.

Projects approved as part of Second Cycle will be amended into the 2005 TIP. Because the air quality conformity finding is being performed on the 2005 TIP, any non-exempt projects that were not incorporated into the 2005 TIP air quality conformity finding will not be considered for funding in Second Cycle. In Eastern Solano County, non-exempt projects that were not incorporated into SACOG's 2003 TIP air quality conformity finding will not be considered for funding in Second Cycle. Specifically, for Eastern Solano County CMAQ project proposals, MTC encourages the Solano Transportation Authority to submit projects for immediate programming (prior to the adoption of the 2005 TIP) due to the possible air quality conformity issues facing the SACOG region. Future programming of non-exempt projects and access to funding is dependent upon the air quality conformity findings in the SACOG region. SACOG's air quality conformity status does not impact the ability to add or amend exempt projects in MTC's TIP.

Section IV: Public Involvement

Public Involvement Process

MTC is committed to a public involvement process that is proactive and provides comprehensive information, timely public notice, full public access to key decisions, and opportunities for continuing involvement. MTC provides many methods to fulfill this commitment, as outlined in MTC Resolution No. 2648. The MTC website provides information about MTC's projects and programs, the agency's structure and governing body and upcoming public meetings and workshops. It also contains all of MTC's current planning and programming documents and publications located in the MTC-Association of Bay Area governments (ABAG) Library. The site posts agendas and packets as well as audiocasts, making it possible for interested parties to listen at their convenience to all Commission and standing committee meetings held in the MetroCenter's Lawerence D. Dahms Auditorium.

The projects proposed for MTC's STP/CMAQ/TE program must be consistent with the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). Extensive outreach is held throughout the nine-county San Francisco Bay area to solicit comments on major plans and programs. Meetings are located and scheduled to maximize public participation (including evening meetings). MTC also conducts workshops, community forums, conferences, and other events to keep the public informed and involved in various transportation projects and plans and to elicit feedback from the public and MTC's partners. Additionally, when programming projects from the RTP, MTC publicizes all of the committee meetings and provides written materials to accompany the agenda items.

Under the STP/CMAQ/TE Program, Congestion Management Agencies (CMAs) or equivalent agencies are also responsible for project selection for some categories of funding. Hence, CMAs are required to comply with MTC's public outreach standards. Below are suggestions for CMAs to pursue in seeking suggestions and comments on proposed projects that will be submitted to MTC for inclusion in the STP/CMAQ/TE Program. Further guidance is contained in the CMA Guidelines for Public Involvement Strategy for Transportation 2030.

- Hold public meetings to adequately cover the major population centers and sub-areas within the county. These meetings should be structured to ensure the inclusion of the views and concerns of low-income and minority communities covered under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act.
- Provide for the public the key decision milestones in the process, so that interested residents can follow the process and know in advance when the CMA board will take action.
- In addition to the public meetings above, provide and publicize opportunities for affected stakeholders to comment about county projects at regularly scheduled meetings of the CMA policy board.
- Make a concerted effort to publicize meetings to a wide range of interest organizations and residents, including groups representing low-income and minority communities.

Title VI

Investments made in the STP/CMAQ/TE program must be consistent with federal Title VI requirements. Title VI prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, income, and national origin in programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance. Public outreach to and involvement of individuals in low income and minority communities covered under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act and the Executive Order pertaining to Environmental Justice is critical to both local and regional decisions. Additionally, the CMAs must consider equitable solicitation and selection of project candidates in accordance with federal Title VI requirements.

Section V: Fund Estimate

Baseline revenue assumptions for TEA-21 reauthorization legislation have not been established as of yet. First and Second Cycle Programs revenue projections are based on the 2001 RTP estimates and assumptions regarding TEA-21 Reauthorization. When Reauthorization legislation is passed, the approved funding levels and any necessary adjustments to First and Second Cycles will be reflected in Third Cycle.

Based on historical revenues and assumptions regarding TEA-21 Reauthorization, approximately \$147 million in STP, \$136 million in CMAQ (including Eastern Solano County), and \$9.0 million in TE funds is available in Second Cycle. Any unprogrammed apportionments from FY 2004-05 will be programmed as part of Second Cycle to STIP Backfill projects. In September 2003, the California Transportation Commission voted to redirect TE apportionments from the regional STP-CMAQ program to the RTIP beginning with TEA-21 Reauthorization funding. In the 2004 RTIP policies, half of the TE funds will be dedicated to the STP/CMAQ/TE program for use on the TLC/HIP program.

Table 1: FY 2005-06 and 2006-07Second Cycle Estimated STP, CMAQ, and TE Revenues¹

Program	Second Cycle Revenue (in thousands of dollars)
Surface Transportation Program	146,900
Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) ²	131,300
CMAQ – Eastern Solano County ²	4,800
Transportation Enhancement Activities Program (TE) ³	9,000
TOTAL	292,000

¹ Revenues based on 2001 RTP projections and assumptions about TEA-21 Reauthorization.

Section VI: Programming Schedule

Development of the Second Cycle Program under these procedures will be done in accordance with the schedule outlined in Appendix A of this policy. This policy was developed in collaboration with the Bay Area Partnership and associated committees. STIP Backfill projects will be programmed under the 2004 RTIP in April. The Clean Air, Regional Operations, and CMA Planning categories will be programmed with the 2005 TIP update in July. Following policy adoption by the Commission in April, MTC will conduct a call for projects beginning in May, with a program adoption anticipated by December 2004 for the local streets and road and TLC/HIP programs. The Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian and Transit Capital Shortfall Programs will be programmed at a later date and amended into the Second Cycle Program.

² Eastern Solano County CMAQ funds are listed separately and encompass four years worth of CMAQ apportionments, FY 2003-04 through FY 2006-07. The estimated annual apportionment is \$1.2 million per fiscal year in CMAQ funds.

³ The TE funds represented here are the regional share (half) of the RTIP-TE that is to be dedicated to the County TLC Program.

Section VII: Second Cycle Programming Policies

A. General policies

- Second Cycle projects will be programmed based on TEA-21 legislative guidelines. Once TEA-21 Reauthorization is authorized, the projects adopted as part of Second Cycle will be reviewed for consistency with the new legislation.
- The STP, CMAQ, fund estimate for Second Cycle is based on the 2001 RTP revenue projections. When reauthorizing legislation is passed on TEA-21, the fund estimate will be updated to reflect the authorized funding revenue for STP, CMAQ. Any programming in excess of actual apportionments from First and Second Cycles will be carried over into FY 2007-08.
- Projects are subject to the provisions of the Regional Project Delivery Policies (MTC Resolution No. 3606, attached).
- The Eastern Solano County CMAQ funds will be available for programming as soon as projects are identified and brought forward by the Solano Transportation Authority.
- The Surface Transportation Program and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program funding is fixed at the programmed amount, and therefore any cost increase cannot be expected to be funded with Surface Transportation Program or Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program funds.
- Projects proposed must be either exempt or currently modeled in the air quality conformity finding of the 2005 TIP.
- MTC will have final program approval.
- The regional STP, CMAQ, and TE program is project specific. The STP, CMAQ, and TE funds for projects in an existing program are for those projects alone.

B. Eligible Project Categories

Categories eligible for funding include the following:

- 1. Clean Air Program
- 2. Regional Operations Programs
- 3. Planning Activities
- 4. Transit Capital Shortfall
- 5. Local Streets and Roads Shortfall
- 6. Transportation for Livable Communities/ Housing Improvement Program (TLC/HIP)
- 7. Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Program
- 8. STIP Backfill

C. Project Category Specific Policies

The Clean Air Program: This category focuses on three specific programs. The region has confirmed its commitment towards contributing regional funds to the Spare the Air campaign. In First Cycle, two years of Regional Express Bus operations were funded through the CMAQ

program. In Second Cycle, the third year and final year of CMAQ funds that are dedicated towards the Regional Express Bus operations will be programmed in FY 2005-06. The project sponsors in these two categories will apply for funding directly through MTC.

The administration of the Eastern Solano CMAQ funds differs slightly. MTC works with the Solano Transportation Authority (STA) to program CMAQ eligible projects in the Eastern portion of Solano County. Approximately four year's worth of CMAQ funds will be available for programming to eligible CMAQ projects in Eastern Solano County in Second Cycle. A portion of these funds may be dedicated to the regionally administered programs in an amount consistent with the services provided. MTC will accept funding requests from an STA approved list of projects. Hence, projects sponsors wishing to apply for CMAQ funds in Eastern Solano will need to consult the STA first. MTC will provide a target funding amount for the STA to develop a priority list of projects to fund with the CMAQ funds allotted to that part of the region. The STA will develop their project listing in consultation the Yolo/Solano Air Quality Management District. Projects must physically lie or directly impact the Eastern Solano portion of the county and must be eligible for CMAQ funding.

Regional Operations Programs: The projects eligible for this funding category include TransLink®, 511 TravInfo®, Regional Rideshare, TETAP, PTAP, Arterial Signal Re-timing, Marketing, Transit Info, Incident Management, Freeway Operation Systems, and performance monitoring. These projects are administered at the regional level and are administered as operational or regional grant programs. Project sponsors in this category apply directly for funding through MTC. Five million dollars worth of programming in the Regional Operations program will be deferred to Third Cycle for programming.

Planning Activities: MTC continues to fund congestion management planning activities. Approximately 3% of the STP revenues are dedicated to the CMAs for planning. The planning funds are based on the estimated STP revenue assumptions adopted in the 2001 RTP. Each county CMA is guaranteed a minimum of \$240,000, an increase from the minimum threshold of \$140,000 provided during TEA 21. The CMA's are provided either the county's population share of 3% of the STP funds or \$240,000, whichever figure is higher. In addition, \$1.35 million (\$150,000 for each of the county CMAs) will be targeted for transportation land use planning coordination with MTC under the Transportation for Planning and Land Use Solutions Program (T-PLUS). The TLC planning grant program also receives funds under this category, but is administered through a separate process. The planning grants are usually awarded on an annual basis and a call for projects is typically held in the Spring. Please refer to the TLC Planning Grant Program for more details.

Transit Capital Shortfall: The transit capital priorities are regionally coordinated. The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) capital formula funds do not have the financial capability to meet the needs of the program, which results in a shortfall. The MTC Commission has decided to alleviate this shortfall by dedicating some STP/CMAQ/TE funds towards the rehabilitation needs of the transit capital priorities that are categorized as Score 16 and above (for details on the specifications of Score 16 projects, please refer to the transit capital priorities process). The distribution of STP/CMAQ funds to the transit operators for transit capital shortfall projects is dependent on the FTA 5307/5309 distribution formula. However, the region is in the process of

solidifying the distribution formula for the FTA 5307/5309 program. In the meantime, MTC will reserve 2/25th of the T-2030 agreed upon funding commitment for programming in the future. The STP/CMAQ funds will be programmed in coordination with the next FTA 5307/5309 programming schedule.

Local Streets and Roads Shortfall: The MTC Commission also reiterated their commitment towards alleviating the local streets and roads rehabilitation needs. Through the T-2030 process, county shortfall figures have been identified. Each county's funding target in Second Cycle, provided by MTC, is based on the annualized shortfall amount committed to in T-2030. Initial project solicitations will be conducted at the CMA level. Thereafter, each CMA will submit their approved list of funding requests to MTC for final program approval. Projects can include pavement and non-pavement elements. The local streets and road shortfall funding is intended for improving facilities on the Metropolitan Transportation System. However, the MTC Commission T-2030 policy does allow flexibility for counties to fund non-MTS projects in jurisdictions without MTS routes or those who can demonstrate there is no need on their MTS routes. The project sponsor must demonstrate a Pavement Condition Index number of 70 or greater on their MTS routes before being granted the exception to use these funds off of the MTS. First priority will be given to MTS projects within a jurisdiction. Flexibility for funding projects off of the MTS will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis by the various county CMAs. Each CMA may apply additional program criteria, as long as the modifications are consistent with the Second Cycle Programming Policies. See Appendix B for county funding targets.

TLC/HIP: This is a grant program that is administered through a separate call for projects and program guidelines and criteria. Overall the Transportation for Livable Communities/ Housing Improvement Program (TLC/HIP) must meet the criteria of the STP/CMAQ/TE program. However, the program is very specific and customized program guidance has been developed (For more details, please refer to Resolution No. 3618). While the project selection process is administered separately from Second Cycle, the schedule for the upcoming TLC/HIP program closely mirrors the Second Cycle schedule. The projects selected to receive TLC/HIP grants will be incorporated into the Second Cycle Program and TIP Amendment. Refer to MTC's website for additional application and TLC/HIP guidance information. The call for projects will be held in May of 2004, with a proposed project list anticipated by Fall 2004.

MTC reserves \$27 million annually in STP, CMAQ, and TE funds for this program, for a total of \$54 million in Second Cycle. In recognition of the economic situation the region currently faces, \$36 million will be programmed in Second Cycle, with the balance deferred to future programming cycles. Nine million of the \$36 million in Second Cycle programming will be programmed as RTIP-TE funds as part of the County TLC program in the RTIP. The programming details for the County TLC RTIP-TE funds will be developed with the guidelines for the County TLC Program. This programming action will ensure compliance with Transportation Control Measure C, which requires that MTC commit \$27 million dollars to the TLC program by 2006.

Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian: This is a grant program, funded at \$8 million annually and is administered as a separate program by MTC in cooperation with the CMAs. Overall, this program must meet the framework of the STP/CMAQ/TE program. This is a newly introduced

program in the STP/CMAQ/TE program, adopted through the T-2030 Phase 1 decisions. The program is designed to fund regionally significant bicycle and pedestrian projects. Geographic equity will be ensured over time, with each county receiving a minimum of 75% of their population share in any given grant cycle. The region will select projects for the remaining 25 %. CMAs select projects for the 75% and submit a prioritized project list for the 25% share to the region. From the prioritized list of projects from each county for the 25% share, the region will select a final set of projects to be awarded the 25% funding. Over a 12-year programming period, counties will receive 100% of their county population share.

Due to regional funding shortfalls for existing transportation projects, the region agreed to defer \$8 million in funding to Third Cycle. The project screening criteria is being developed and a call for projects is anticipated to occur in late 2004, with a programming adoption anticipated in 2005. A CMAQ funding reserve will be set aside for this program in Second Cycle until the project list is ready to be programmed. The projects selected for this program will be amended into the Second Cycle Program and 2005 TIP. The application guidelines and project solicitation schedule are forthcoming for this program.

STIP Backfill: In consultation with the Partnership and individual project sponsors, MTC has deferred \$5 million from the Regional Operations, \$18 million from TLC/HIP, and \$8 million from the Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian program in STP/CMAQ/TE funding. The deferred funds are being programmed to ready-to-go existing STIP projects that do not have sufficient funding due to the state's fiscal crisis. The repayment of the displaced programmatic funding in Second Cycle will be made up for in the Third Cycle of federal programming. Any remaining unprogrammed apportionments from FY 2004-05 will also be programmed to projects in this category.

Staff developed a number of Guiding Principles in making its final recommendation. High priority projects were deemed to be safety- related, necessary to meet air quality commitments, and critical to the rehabilitation of our existing system. As well, there are a number of high profile STIP projects that are relying on future Traffic Congestion Relief Program (TCRP) allocations to make them whole, with the TCRP funds completing complex funding packages for these projects. The \$62 million made available will be committed to backfilling the STIP projects. The STP/CMAQ funding for STIP Backfill is being programmed to specific STIP projects in conjunction with the 2004 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) Adoption (MTC Resolution No. 3612).

Table 2: Specific Program Policies Summary

PROGRAM	Eligible Projects	Level of Project Solicitation (How to Apply for funding)	Timing of Project Solicitations/ Programming	AVAILABLE FUNDING
Clean Air	This program category aims to support projects and programs that reduce air pollutants. Second Cycle has identified Spare the Air projects, Regional Express Bus Operations, and CMAQ projects in Eastern Solano County as eligible projects.	§ E. Solano CMAQ Projects – CMA will solicit projects and subsequently submit an approved list of projects to MTC for final approval.	May 2004/ July 2004	
		§ Regional Express Bus and Spare the Air will apply directly through MTC		\$9 million
Regional Operations	This program category aims to manage the regional transportation system to improve the transportation system for users through traffic management, traveler information efforts, and transit service improvements.	Directly through MTC's Call for Projects	May 2004/ July 2004	\$56 million
CMA Planning Funds	STP Planning, T-PLUS, and TLC/HIP Planning Grants.	§ MTC staff will submit the planning grant funds directly § TLC Planning Grants – Through the TLC/HIP Program Call for Projects	CMA Planning Funds – May 2004/ July 2004 TLC Planning Grants – TBA	\$9 million
Transit Capital Shortfall	Transit capital rehabilitation projects, score 16 and above.	N/A	TBA	\$55 million
Local Streets and Roads Shortfall	Local roadway rehabilitation projects on the Metropolitan Transportation System (MTS). Pavement and Non-pavement elements are both eligible for funding.	CMAs will solicit projects and subsequently submit an approved list of projects to MTC for final approval.	May 2004/ December 2004	\$57 million
TLC/HIP	TLC/HIP projects	Through the TLC/HIP Program	May 2004/ December 2004	\$36 million

[continued on next page]

Table 2: Specific Program Policies Summary (Continued)

		Level of Project Solicitation	Timing of Project	
		(How to Apply for funding)	Solicitations/	AVAILABLE
PROGRAM	Eligible Projects		Programming	FUNDING
Regional	The MTC Commission approved a new program	Through the Regional Bicycle	TBA	\$8 million
Bicycle and	category under T-2030 decisions to create a program	and Pedestrian Program		
Pedestrian	dedicated specifically to funding bicycle and			
	pedestrian programs.			
STIP	Ready-to-go existing STIP projects (list of projects	Directly through MTC's Call for	April 2004	\$62 million
Backfill	has been determined through collaboration with	RTIP Projects		
	CMAs)			
Total Second Cycle Program:			\$292 million	

D. Project Eligibility

1. Eligible Projects. STP has a wide range of projects that are eligible for consideration in the TIP. Eligible projects include, federal-aid highway and bridge improvements (construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, resurfacing, restoration, and operational), mitigation related to an STP project, public transit capital improvements, pedestrian, and bicycle facilities, and transportation system management, transportation demand management, transportation control measures, surface transportation planning activities, and safety. More detailed eligibility requirements can be found in Section 133 of Title 23 of the United States Code.

CMAQ funding applies to new or expanded transportation projects, programs, and operations that help reduce emissions. Eligible project categories that meet this basic criteria include: Transportation activities in approved State Implementation Plan (SIP), Transportation Control Measures (TCMs), public-private partnerships, alternative fuels, traffic flow improvements, transit projects (facilities, vehicles, operating assistance up to three years, and fare subsidies), bicycle and pedestrian facilities and programs, travel demand management, outreach and rideshare activities, telecommuting programs, Fare subsidy programs, intermodal freight, planning and project development activities, Inspection and maintenance programs, magnetic levitation transportation technology deployment program, and experimental pilot projects. For more detailed guidance see the CMAQ Program Guidance (FHWA, April 1999).

- 2. RTP Consistency. Projects included in the Second Cycle STP, CMAQ, and TE Program must be consistent with the adopted Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), which federal law requires be consistent with federal planning and programming requirements. Each project to be included in the Second Cycle Program must identify its relationship with meeting the goals and objectives of the RTP, and where applicable, the RTP ID number and/or RTP travel corridor and whether the project is to be credited against the county's transit capital shortfall target.
- **3. CMP Consistency.** Local projects must be consistent with the County Congestion Management Plan (CMP), or the adopted Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for counties that have opted out of the CMP requirement, prior to inclusion in the Second Cycle Program.
- 4. Accommodations for Bicyclists, Pedestrians and Persons with Disabilities. Federal, state and regional policies and directives emphasize the accommodation of bicyclists, pedestrians, and persons with disabilities when designing transportation facilities. Of particular note is Caltrans Deputy Directive 64 which stipulates: "pedestrians, bicyclists and persons with disabilities must be considered in all programming, planning, maintenance, construction, operations, and project development activities and products." MTC's Regional Bicycle Plan, adopted as a component of the 2001 RTP, requires that "all regionally funded projects consider enhancement of bicycle transportation consistent with Deputy Directive 64".

In selecting projects for inclusion in the RTIP, the CMAs and project sponsors must consider federal, state and regional policies and directives regarding non-motorized travel, including, but limited to, the following:

Federal Policy Mandates

TEA-21 states that, "Bicycle transportation facilities and pedestrian walkways shall be considered, where appropriate, in conjunction with all new construction and reconstruction of transportation projects, except where bicycle and pedestrian use are not permitted." (Section 1202)

The Federal Highways Administration Program Guidance on bicycle and pedestrian issues makes a number of clear statements of intent, and provides a best practices concept as outlined in the US DOT Policy Statement on Integrating Bicycling and Walking into Transportation Infrastructure." (http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bikeped/Design.htm)

State Policy Mandates

California Government Code Section 65089(b)(1)(B)(5) requires that the design, construction and implementation of roadway projects proposed for funding in the RTIP must consider maintaining bicycle access and safety at a level comparable to that which existed prior to the improvement or alteration.

Caltrans Deputy Directive 64 (http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/tpp/offices/bike/DD64.pdf), states: "the Department fully considers the needs of non-motorized travelers (including pedestrians, bicyclists, and persons with disabilities) in all programming, planning, maintenance, construction, operations, and project development activities and products. This includes incorporation of the best available standards in all of the Department's practices. The Department adopts the best practices concept in the US DOT Policy Statement on Integrating Bicycling and Walking into Transportation Infrastructure."

Regional Policy Mandates

All projects programmed in the RTIP must consider the impact to bicycle transportation, pedestrians and persons with disabilities. Furthermore, it is encouraged that all bicycle projects programmed in the RTIP support the Regional Bicycle Network. Guidance on considering bicycle transportation can be found in MTC's 2001 Regional Bicycle Plan (a component of the 2001 RTP) and Caltrans Deputy Directive 64. MTC's Regional Bicycle Plan, containing federal, state and regional polices for accommodating bicycles and non-motorized travel, is available on MTC's Web site at: http://www.mtc.ca.gov/projects/rtp/bicycle.htm

5. Fully Funded Projects. The Project Must Be Fully Funded. Section 134 (h) of Title 23 of United States Code states that the regional program "shall include a project, or an identified phase of a project, only if full funding can reasonably be anticipated to be available for the project within the time period contemplated for completion of the project". All local projects included in the Second Cycle Program must be accompanied by an authorizing resolution stating the sponsor's commitment to complete the project as scoped with the funds requested. A model resolution including the information required is outlined in Sample Resolution - Appendix B of this guidance.

MTC will program a project component only if it finds that the component itself is fully funded, either from STP, CMAQ, or TEA funds or from other committed funds. MTC will regard funds other than STP, CMAQ, and TE as committed when the agency with discretionary authority over the funds has made its commitment to the project by ordinance or resolution. For federal discretionary funds, the commitment may be by federal approval of a full funding grant agreement or other federal approval. Any cost increases are the responsibility of the project sponsor.

6. Readiness Standards. Project Phases Must Be Ready in the Year Proposed. Funds designated for each project component will only be available for obligation in the fiscal year in which the funds are programmed in the TIP. Once obligated, the sponsor will have five years, including the fiscal year in which the funds were obligated, to expend funds. For construction or equipment purchase projects (not applicable to FTA transfers), the project sponsor will have one year to award a contract and three years to expend funds. It is therefore very important that projects be ready to proceed in the year programmed.

E. Local Match

Projects funded with STP or CMAQ funding requires a non-federal local match. Based on California's share of the nation's federal lands, the local match for STP and CMAQ is 11.47% of the total project cost. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) will reimburse up to 88.53% of the total project cost. Project sponsors are required to provide the non-federal match, which is subject to change. The local match for TE projects will be provided by the STIP.

F. Project Application Process and Criteria

Application Components: Project sponsors must submit a completed project application for each project proposed for funding in Second Cycle Program. MTC is migrating towards a universal online application for most of the funding programs administered by MTC. Applications for Second Cycle STP and CMAQ projects will be accepted through MTC's website (See Appendix C for details). In situations where a project sponsor cannot access MTC's online application, please contact MTC staff.

Applicants should apply for the appropriate fund source to the best of their knowledge. Where applicable and eligible, MTC will assign CMAQ funds to projects. For projects applying for CMAQ funds, an emissions benefit analysis will need to be submitted. CMAQ Emissions Benefit Analysis, available at: http://www.arb.ca.gov/planning/tsaq/eval/eval.htm. After the projects have been approved, applicants will also need to provide a resolution of local support and opinion of legal counsel (See Appendices D-F). MTC has the authority to deprogram projects that do not have a Resolution of Local Support and an Opinion of Legal Counsel on file.

Application Materials

		Notes:
1	STP and CMAQ	Accessible at:_
	Application	http://apps06.mtc.ca.gov/webfms/index.jsp.
2	CMAQ Emissions	Only applies to CMAQ eligible projects
	Analysis	
3	Resolution of local	After MTC develops a draft list of projects, sponsors should begin
	support *	developing their Resolution of Local Support.
4	Opinion of legal	After MTC develops a draft list of projects, sponsors should begin
	counsel *	developing their Opinion of Legal Counsel.

* NOTE: Project sponsors have the option of consolidating the 'Opinion of Legal Counsel' within the Resolution of Local Support, by incorporating the statements into the Resolution of Local Support.

G. Project Delivery

The Regional Project Delivery Policy (MTC Resolution No. 3606) establishes deadlines for funding in the Surface Transportation Program (STP) and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Program to ensure timely project delivery against state and federal funding deadlines. This resolution establishes a standard policy for enforcing project funding deadlines and project substitutions for these funds during the Transportation Equity Act for the Twenty-First Century (TEA-21) Reauthorization. Projects programmed in Second Cycle of TEA-21 Reauthorization are subject to the provisions of MTC Resolution No. 3606 (Attached).

The regional STP and CMAQ programs are project specific. Projects are chosen for the program based on eligibility, project merit, and deliverability within the established deadlines. The programmed STP and CMAQ funds are for those projects alone. It is the responsibility of the implementing agency at the time of programming, to ensure the regional deadlines and provisions of the regional project delivery policy can be met.

MTC staff will actively monitor and report the obligation status of projects to the Finance Working Group (FWG) of the Bay Area Partnership. The FWG will monitor project delivery issues as they arise and make recommendations to the Partnership Technical Advisory Committee (PTAC) as necessary.

STP, CMAQ, and TE funds are programmed in the fiscal year the project is to be obligated by FHWA or transferred to FTA. Projects selected in Second Cycle are expected to be obligated in FY 2003-04 through 2007-08. A project sponsor may not be reimbursed for expenditures made prior to the authorization to proceed. Therefore, the project sponsor must not incur costs prior to an authorization to proceed from FHWA (or authorization for Advance Construction (AC)), or a transfer of funds to FTA (or pre-award authority). The following are highlighted milestones.

Obligation deadlines, project substitutions and redirection of project savings will continue to be governed by the MTC Regional Project Delivery Policy which enforces fund obligation deadlines and project substitution for STP, CMAQ, and TE funds (MTC Resolution No. 3606).

Field Review for Federally Funded Local Projects. By requesting funding for a federally-funded project in the TIP, the project sponsor agrees to contact Caltrans and schedule and complete a project field review within 6-months of MTC's approval of the project in the TIP. This requirement only applies to projects receiving federal funds subject to FHWA local federal-aid field review requirements. It does not apply to projects for which a field review would not be applicable (such as FTA transfers, regional customer service projects and planning activities).

Environmental Documentation Submittals. Implementing agencies are required to submit a complete environmental package to Caltrans for all projects (except those determined *Programmatic Categorical Exemption* as determined by Caltrans at the field review), twelve months prior to the obligation deadline for right of way or construction funds. If the environmental process, as determined at the field review, will take longer than 12 months before obligation, the implementing agency is responsible to deliver the complete environmental submittal in a timely manner.

Obligation/Submittal Deadlines. The implementing agency is required to deliver a complete and valid funding obligation / FTA Transfer request package to Caltrans Local Assistance by April 1 of the year the funds are listed in the TIP. Projects with complete packages delivered by April 1 of the programmed year will have first priority for available OA. If the project is delivered after April 1 of the programmed year, the funds will not be the highest priority for obligation in the event of Obligation Authority (OA) limitations, and will compete with projects advanced from future years for limited OA. Fund obligation/FTA transfer requests submitted after the April 1 deadline will be viewed as subject to reprogramming.

Within the formula-based programs, such as county guaranteed funding returned to counties based on a population share the Congestion Management Agencies (CMAs) may adjust programming up until April 1of the programmed year, swapping funds to a ready project in order to utilize all of the programming capacity, subject to available OA. The substituted project(s) must still obligate the funds within the original funding deadline.

Encumbrance/Liquidation/Project Close-Out Deadlines. STP and CMAQ funds must be encumbered by an approved State funding agreement within one state fiscal year after the fiscal year of obligation. Furthermore, the funds must be fully liquidated (expended, invoiced and reimbursed), within four state fiscal years after the fiscal year in which the funds were obligated, and the project must be accepted and closed out within five state fiscal years after the fiscal year in which the funds were obligated.

For funding programmed through regional competitive programs, such as the regional Transportation for Livable Communities (TLC) program, or for regional customer service projects, such as TravInfo®, or for planning activities, such as the CMA planning activities, the Commission has discretion to redirect funds from delayed or failed projects.

H. Project Amendments

The implementing agency or MTC may determine that circumstances may justify changes to the STP and CMAQ programming. These changes, or amendments to these regional programs, are not routine. All proposed changes will be reviewed by MTC staff before any formal actions on

program amendments are considered by the Commission. All changes must follow MTC policies on the Public Involvement Process and Federal Air Quality Procedures and Conformity Protocol. Changes must be consistent with the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), must not adversely affect the expeditious implementation of Transportation Control Measures (TCMs), must not negatively impact the deliverability of other projects in the regional programs, and must not affect the conformity finding in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Appendix A: Schedule of Activities

	TEA 21 Reauthorizati	CMAQ, and TE - ion: Second-Cycle Programming tule of Activities 2004	
Date	Local Streets and Roads Shortfall	TLC/HIP Program Cycle 1	Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian & Transit Capital Shortfall Programs
January – March 2004	Development of policies with Pa Council	rtnership Board and Advisory	
April 9, 2004		POC review and recommendation of Draft TLC/HIP Program Guidelines	
April 14, 2004	PAC review and recommendation of Draft 2 nd Cycle Program Guidelines		
April 28, 2004	Commission adoption of 2 nd Cycle Program Guidelines	Commission adoption of TLC/HIP Program Guidelines	Commission adoption of Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Policies
May 1, 2004	Program Development/ Issue Call for Projects	Issue Call for Projects	Development of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Program. A call for
June 31, 2004	John	End Call for Projects (12 weeks)	projects is anticipated in Fall 2004. More details will follow as developments progress for
July 2004	-	Project Screening Executive Staff Review of Draft TLC/HIP Program	both the Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Program and the Transit Capital Shortfall
August - September 2004	Aug. 31 - End Call for Projects (4 months)		Program.
September 2004	Presentation of Program to Partn Committee	ership Technical Advisory	
October 6, 2004	PAC Mailing of Draft 2 nd Cycle TLC/HIP Program), and TIP Am	STP/CMAQ Program (including nendment Project Lists	
October 13, 2004	PAC Review and authorization to release Draft 2 nd Cycle STP/CMAQ Program and TIP Amendment and begin the public comment period		
October 18, 2004	Release Draft Programs for Public Comment/ Begin Public Comment Period		
November 10, 2004	PAC conducts public hearing review and recommendation of Project Lists		
November 19, 2004	End Public Comment Period		
December 8, 2004	PAC review and recommendation of Draft 2 nd Cycle STP/CMAQ, and TIP Amendment Program		
December 22, 2004	Commission approval of 2 nd Cyc Amendment Program	ele STP/CMAQ, and TIP	
January/ February 2005	Caltrans, FHWA, and FTA appro	oval of 2005 TIP Amendment	

Appendix B: Funding Targets for CMA Solicitation Programs

Eastern Solano CMAQ:

The Solano Transportation Authority, in consultation with the Yolo-Solano Air District may solicit CMAQ projects for the Eastern part of Solano County in the amount listed.

County	Total Second Cycle Funding Target
Eastern Solano	\$ 4,800,000

Local Streets and Roads Shortfall: Each County's local streets and roads shortfall funding target in Second Cycle is based on the MTS shortfall needs calculated through T-2030. The annual need is based on 1/25th of the RTP Local Streets and Roads shortfall need. The following is the funding breakdown by county.

Table X: Local Streets and Roads Funding Targets			
County	MTS Shortfall	Total Second Cycle Funding	
	Need	Targets (rounded up to nearest	
	(% Share)	thousand)	
Alameda	10%	\$ 5,728,000	
Contra Costa	11%	\$ 6,135,000	
Marin	6%	\$ 3,380,000	
Napa	6%	\$ 3,376,000	
San Francisco	9%	\$ 5,346,000	
San Mateo	7%	\$ 3,738,000	
Santa Clara	28%	\$ 16,074,000	
Solano	3%	\$ 1,887,000	
Sonoma	20%	\$ 11,652,000	
Total	100%	\$ 57,316,000	

^{*} Amounts are approximate and funding is subject to availability. Some funds may be in FY 2007-08.

Appendix C: Second Cycle Application **General Guidelines**

The Universal Application is a project application system that allows project sponsors and transit agencies to propose new projects to MTC, propose amendments to existing projects, view submitted applications, and resume editing of In-Process applications. The application is accessible at http://apps06.mtc.ca.gov/webfms/index.jsp. Please Contact Raymond Odunlami at 510-464-7717 for any technical problems with WebFMS. The following pages contain sample screen shots and instructions for the online application.

Setting up a Profile

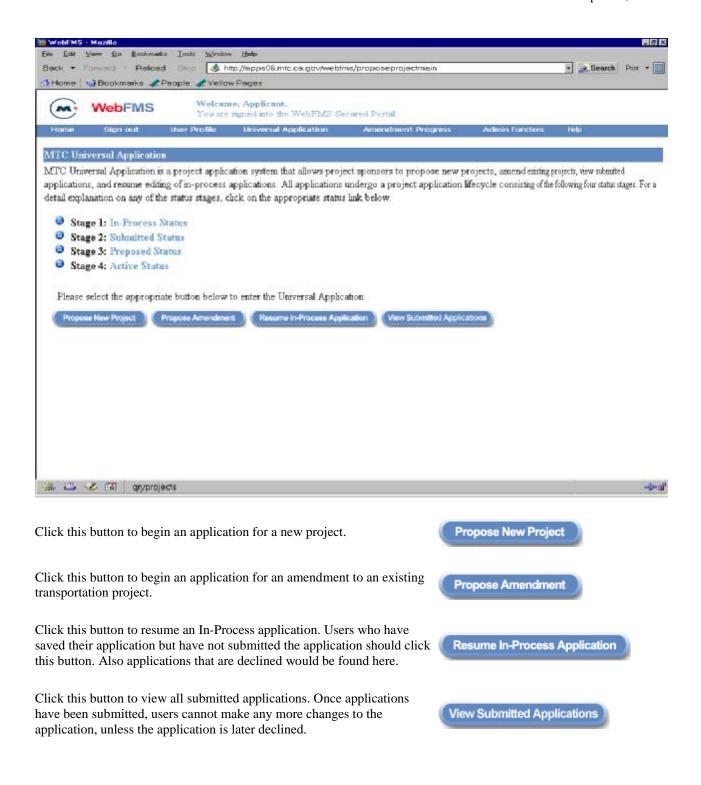
Before an applicant may submit an application, a user profile must be created, confirmed, and approved by the WebFMS Fund Administrator. When entering the homepage of the WebFMS system, click on the "Sign In" tab. A link that will enable you to begin the process of setting up a profile will appear. Your profile should be set up in one working day of your submittal. After your profile has been set up, you will be able to proceed with the application submittal.

Note that if you are not currently signed onto the WebFMS Secure Portal, you will not see the Universal Application link. This link is only provided to transit operators and agencies to submit new project and project amendment applications.

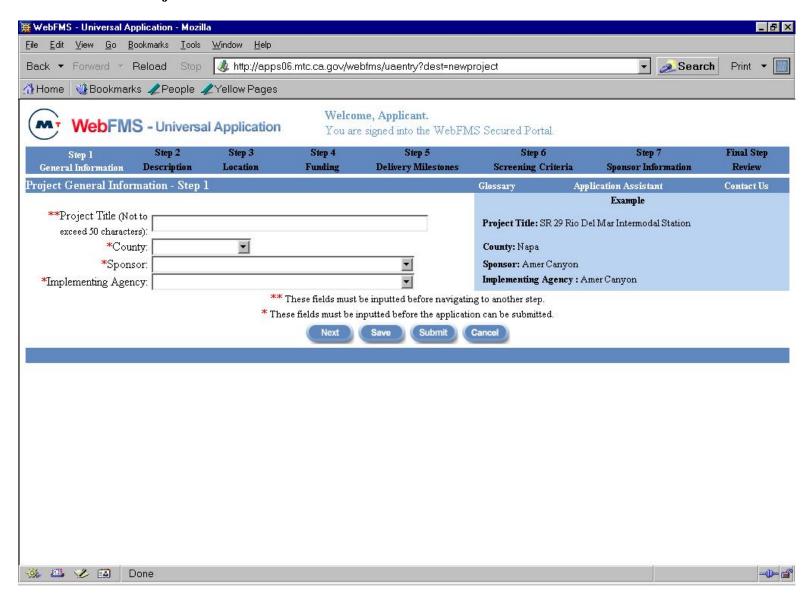
Universal Application

PRE-STEP: Entering the Application Portal

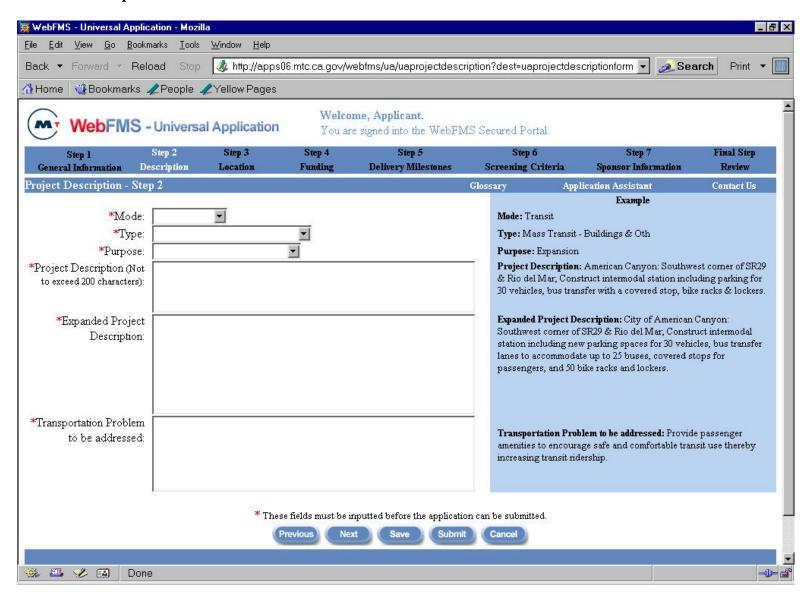
After signing in, you will notice a "Universal Application" tab will appear in the blue bar at the top of the page. Click on the "Universal Application" tab. The Universal Application Main Menu presents the user with several options (shown below). Since the most common function will be to propose a new project, the instructions herein will reflect a new project application.



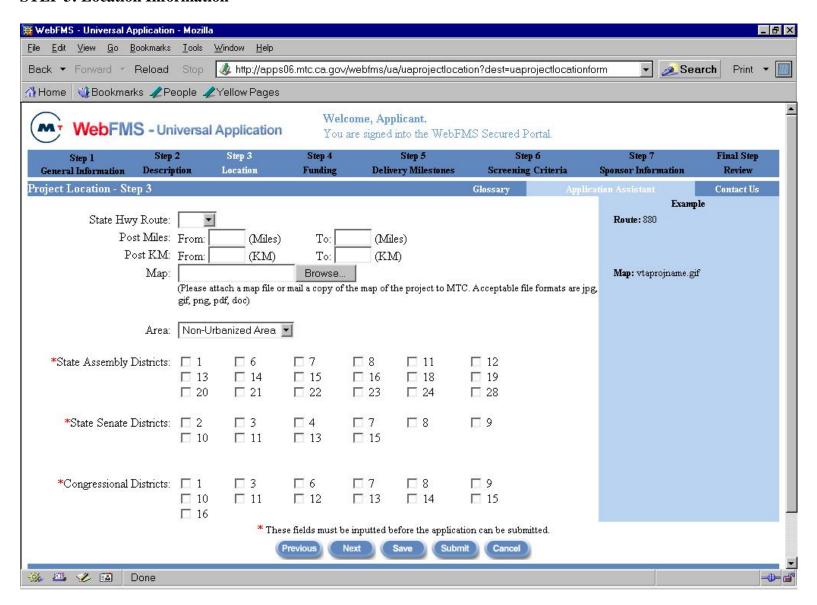
STEP 1: General Project Information



STEP 2: Description



STEP 3: Location Information



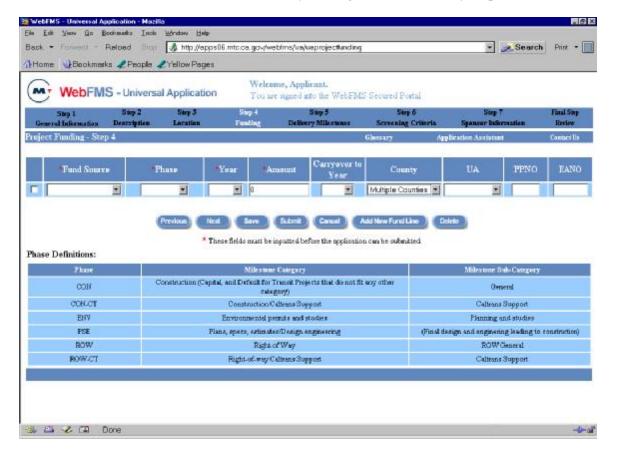
STEP 4: Funding Information

Project Phases: Applicants must separate the projects and submit the funding according to project in the following four components:

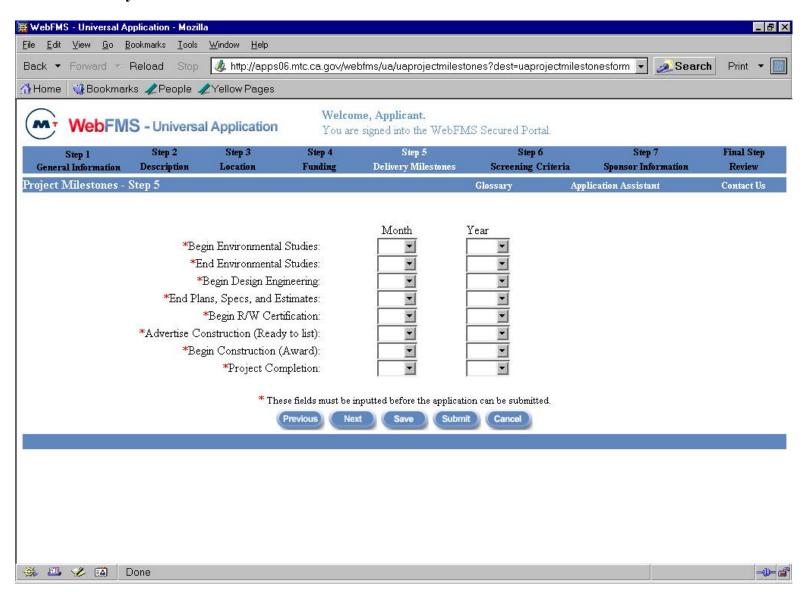
- 1. Environmental Document and Preliminary Engineering (EDPE)
- 2. Final Design, Plans, Specifications, and Estimates (PS&E)
- 3. Acquisition of right-of-way (ROW), and right of way related activities
- 4. Construction, construction management and engineering, including surveys and inspections, equipment acquisition, and purchase of rolling stock. (CON)

Project Costs: Funding amounts for any component shall be rounded to the nearest \$1,000.

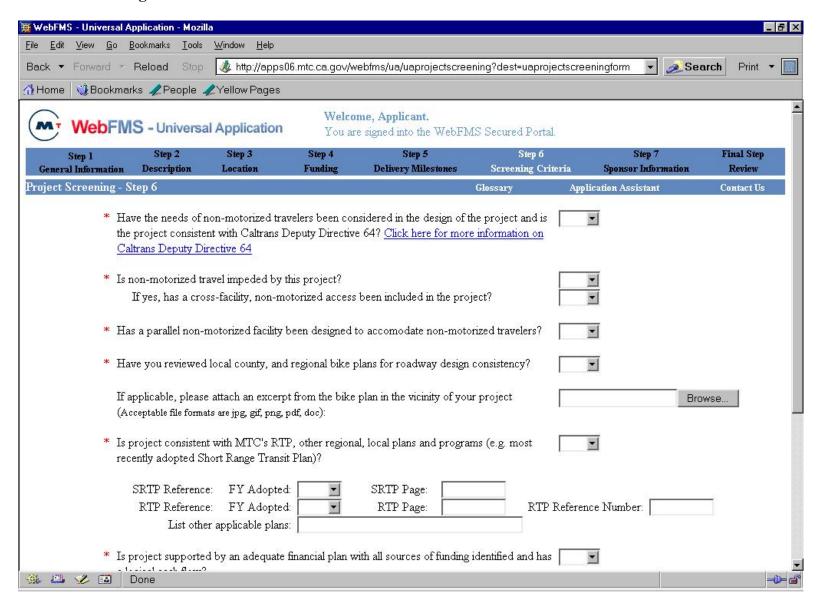
Fiscal Years of Programming: The Second Cycle Program covers a two-year period, FY 2005-06 and FY 2006-07.



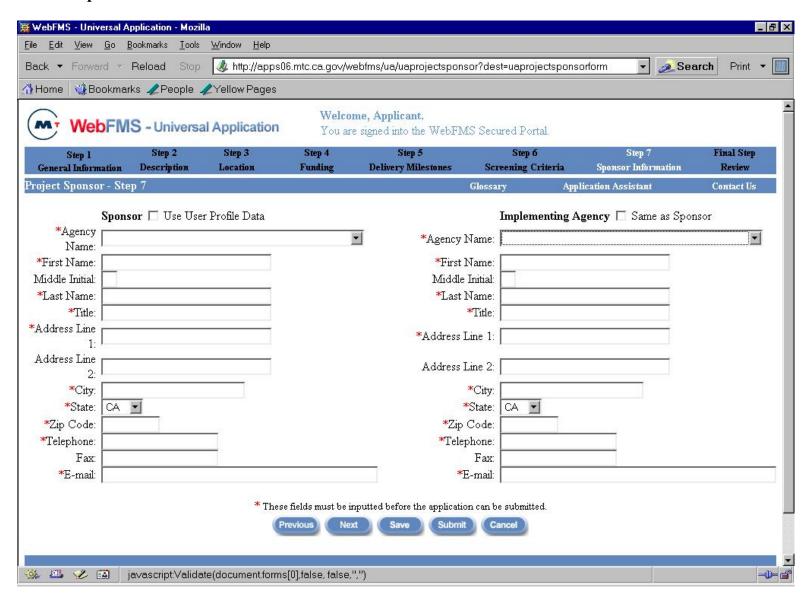
STEP 5: Delivery Milestones



STEP 6: Screening Criteria



STEP 7: Sponsor Information



Appendix D: Sample Resolution of Local Support STP, CMAQ, and TEA Second Cycle Project Application

Reso	lution	No.	

AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM AND CONGESTION MITIGATION AND AIR
QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FUNDING FOR (project name) AND
COMMITTING THE NECESSARY LOCAL MATCH FOR THE PROJECT(S) AND
STATING THE ASSURANCE OF (name of jurisdiction) TO COMPLETE THE
PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA 21) (Public Law 105-178, June 9, 1998) and the TEA 21 Restoration Act (Public Law 105-206, July 22, 1998) continue the Surface Transportation Program (23 U.S.C. § 133 and the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) (23 U.S.C. § 149); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to TEA 21, and the regulations promulgated thereunder, eligible project sponsors wishing to receive Surface Transportation Program or Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program grants for a project shall submit an application first with the appropriate metropolitan transportation planning organization (MPO), for review and inclusion in the MPO's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP); and

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission is the MPO for the San Francisco Bay region; and

WHEREAS, (applicant) is an eligible project sponsor for Surface Transportation Program or Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program funds; and

WHEREAS, (applicant) wishes to submit a grant application to MTC for funds from the Surface Transportation Program or Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program in Second Cycle for the following project:

(project description) .

WHEREAS, MTC requires, as part of the application, a resolution stating the following:

- 1) the commitment of necessary local matching funds of at least 11.47%; and
- 2) that the sponsor understands that the Surface Transportation Program and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program funding is fixed at the programmed amount, and therefore any cost increase cannot be expected to be funded with Surface

- Transportation Program or Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program funds; and
- 3) the assurance of the sponsor to complete the project as described in the application, and if approved, as programmed in MTC's TIP; and
- 4) that the sponsor understands that funds must be obligated by September 30 of the year that the project is programmed for in the TIP, or the project may be removed from the program.

Resolved, that (agency name) is an eligible sponsor of projects in the STP, CMAQ, and TE Program; and be it further

Resolved, that (agency name) is authorized to submit an application for STP, CMAQ, and TE funds for (project name); and be it further

Resolved, that there is no legal impediment to (agency name) making applications for STP, CMAQ, and TE funds; and be it further

Resolved, that there is no pending or threatened litigation which might in any way adversely affect the proposed project, or the ability of (agency name) to deliver such project; and be it further

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by (governing board name) that (applicant) is authorized to execute and file an application for funding under the Surface Transportation Program or the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program of TEA-2I Reauthorizationin the amount of (\$ STP/CMAQ request) for (project description); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that (governing board) by adopting this resolution does hereby state that:

- 1) (applicant) will provide (\$ match amount) in local matching funds; and
- 2) (applicant) understands that the Surface Transportation Program and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program funding for the project is fixed at (\$STP/CMAQ amount), and that any cost increases must be funded by the (applicant) from local matching funds, and that (applicant) does not expect any cost increases to be funded with Surface Transportation Program or Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program funds; and
- 3) (project name) will be built as described in this resolution and, if approved, for the amount shown in the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) with obligation occurring within the timeframe established below; and

4) The program funds are expected to be obligated by September 30 of the year the project is programmed for in the TIP.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution will be transmitted to the MTC in conjunction with the filing of the application; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the MTC is requested to support the application for the project described in the resolution and to program the project, if approved, in MTC's TIP.

Appendix E: Sample Opinion of Legal Counsel STP, CMAQ, and TE Second Cycle Project Application

Project sponsors have the option of including specified terms and conditions within the Resolution of Local Support as included in Appendix D. If a project sponsor elects not to include the specified language within the Resolution of Local Support, then the sponsor shall provide MTC with a current Opinion of Counsel stating that the agency is an eligible sponsor of projects for the STP, CMAQ, and TE Program; that the agency is authorized to perform the project for which funds are requested; that there is no legal impediment to the agency applying for the funds; and that there is no pending or anticipated litigation which might adversely affect the project or the ability of the agency to carry out the project. A sample format is provided below.

(Date)					
To: Fr: Re:	Metropolitan Transportation Commission (Applicant) Eligibility for STP, CMAQ, and TE Program				
This co (Applic Progran	mm ant) n m	munication will serve as the requisite opinion of counselent) for funding from the ST made available pursuant to the Reauthorization of TEA	I in connection with the application of P, CMAQ, and TEA First Cycle 21 Legislation.		
	1.	. (Applicant) is an eligible sp and TE Program.	onsor of projects for the STP, CMAQ,		
	2.	2. (Applicant) is authorized to and TE Program funding for (project)	submit an application for STP, CMAQ		
	3.	3. I have reviewed the pertinent state laws and I am of to impediment to (Applicant) and TE Program funds. Furthermore, as a result of me pending or threatened litigation which might in any we projects, or the ability of (Applicant) projects.	making applications for STP, CMAQ, by examinations, I find that there is no way adversely affect the proposed		
		Sincerely,			
		Legal C	ounsel		
		Print na	me		

Appendix F: Optional Language to add to the Resolution for Local Support

Project sponsors have the option of consolidating the 'Opinion of Legal Counsel' within the Resolution of Local Support, by incorporating the following statements into the Resolution of Local Support:

Resolved, that (agency name) is an eligible sponsor of projects in the STP, CMAQ, and TE Program; and be it further

Resolved, that (agency name) is authorized to submit an application for STP, CMAQ, and TE Program for (project name); and be it further

Resolved, that there is no legal impediment to (agency name) making applications for STP, CMAQ, and TE funds; and be it further

Resolved, that there is no pending or threatened litigation which might in any way adversely affect the proposed project, or the ability of (agency name) to deliver such project; and be it further

If the above language is not provided within the Resolution of Local Support, an Opinion of Legal Counsel is required as provided in (Appendix E).

Appendix G: Regional Project Delivery Policy

Appendix G: Regional Project Delivery Policy

Existing MTC Project Delivery/Program Monitoring Policies for STIP, STP, CMAQ and TEA Projects

MTC has implemented several strategies to assist in project delivery over the years, with recent strategies developed to ensure funds subject to requirements under SB 45 and AB 1012 are not lost to the region.

- Regional AB 1012 Deadline of September 30 MTC has adopted a policy requiring the obligation of RSTP and CMAQ funds one year earlier than the requirements of AB1012. This policy is intended to ensure that no funds are lost to the region. Funds not obligated by the regional deadlines are returned to MTC for reprogramming. MTC informs members of the Bay Area Partnership of the project delivery requirements and pending deadlines. MTC does not grant any extensions to the regional deadline. MTC has taken an informal position that it will not request extensions from the CTC for any STP, CMAQ and TEA funds.
- Field Review for Federally Funded Local Federal-Aid STIP Projects One way to avoid unnecessary STIP amendment and extension requests is to conduct a field review as early as possible, so potential issues may be identified with sufficient time for resolution. By requesting funding for a federal-aid FHWA project in the RTIP, the project sponsor agreed to contact Caltrans and schedule and complete a project field review within 6-months of the project being included in the adopted STIP. For the 2002 STIP, Caltrans field reviews should be completed by November 1, 2002. This includes federally funded projects carried over from the 2000 STIP. This requirement only applies to projects receiving federal funds through FHWA. Field reviews for FTA projects and State-only funded projects need not receive a field review from Caltrans.
- Regular Communication/Meetings with Partners MTC has set up a series of regular meetings with various transportation agencies to ensure significant issues are communicated throughout the region. Outcomes of these discussions are incorporated into future policies to ensure regional strategies are developed that assist, rather than hinder, project delivery. Although there may be disagreement with planning policies, a consensus is generally achieved and maintained on polices affecting project delivery.
 - Monthly Regional Project Delivery/Program Monitoring Meetings -Discussions regarding current STIP, STP, CMAQ and TEA delivery with staff of CMAs, counties, Caltrans, transit operators, and various transportation agencies.
 - Monthly Regional Fund Programming Working Group Meetings Policy discussions with staff of counties, CMAs, Caltrans, transit operators and various transportation agencies.

- Monthly Bay Area Partnership Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Policy and delivery discussions with managers from counties, CMAs, Caltrans, transit operators and various transportation agencies
- MTC's Programming and Allocations Committee Project Delivery status reports presented to MTC Commissioners on a quarterly basis. Status reports are used as agenda discussion items by County Technical Advisory Committees (TACs) throughout the Bay Area.
- STIP Extensions and Amendments for Schedule Delay are not Regularly Granted MTC's concurrence with STIP schedule delays and allocation extension requests is the exception rather than the rule. MTC would rather let the funds lapse at time of allocation, rather than risk losing funding with a failure at a more critical milestone in the future. Each request for delay is scrutinized, with project sponsors prepared to present the request directly to the CTC. Only delays with reasonable justifications will be allowed to proceed. A lapse of funds at the time of allocation is not viewed as a negative occurrence, but rather an opportunity to allow the project to be brought back with a more reasonable schedule.
- <u>Programming to Apportionment</u> MTC has adopted a policy to program to apportionment rather than the Obligational Authority. This allows for some projects to fail, without affecting overall program delivery. It is also consistent with the provisions of AB 1012. However, with the other delivery strategies in place, project delivery is around 99.99 percent.
- Provide Technical Assistance to Facilitate Project Delivery MTC has adopted a program to provide technical assistance for selected STIP projects. The STIP Technical Assistance Program (commonly referred as "STIP-TAP") provides funding for the Congestion Management Agencies (CMAs) to ensure the timely delivery of Caltrans projects experiencing cost overruns or schedule delays that could jeopardize the timely delivery of State Highway projects. This program is intended to assist the CMAs in monitoring project delivery and bringing troubled projects back on track by providing expertise that may not otherwise be at their disposal.

For fiscal year 2002-03, the program has been expanded to include assistance for STIP projects proceeding through the environmental review and clearance process within Caltrans Local Assistance. The environmental review process has been one of the major causes of project delay as a result of either extended review and permit approvals by the resource agencies, or due to the local sponsor underestimating the time required to proceed through this process, as well as their general lack of expertise with the environmental requirements under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The program facilitates the environmental review process by providing consultant services to Caltrans Local Assistance on an as-needed basis to expedite project review, and where appropriate, assist the project sponsors in responding to Caltrans requests during the process.

• <u>Develop and Maintain Reliable Database of Project Funding Status</u> Access to reliable information on project status is obviously critical to tracking project delivery. However, the data currently available from Caltrans and others is incomplete and at times inaccurate. While this has proven to be difficult, MTC staff continues to work aggressively with Caltrans District and Headquarters staff and project sponsors to achieve both interim and long-term solutions to this problem. Ultimately MTC intends to have an automated system in place to monitor project/ program delivery.

<u>Potential MTC Project Delivery Polices for TEA-21 Reauthorization Projects</u> (STIP, STP, CMAQ and TEA)

The Bay Area Partnership will be looking at the following additional delivery strategies as part of the policy development for TEA-21 Reauthorization. As we proceed into reauthorization of TEA-21, these delivery strategies may need to be further enhanced, and new strategies implemented, as expectations for further timely delivery improvements continue.

Field Reviews

Delivery Issue

Project sponsors frequently wait until deadlines are approaching, or simply wait until before implementing a project, or Unfortunately, it may not be apparent that certain state or federal rules are required until the project is underway. The purpose of a field review is to ascertain the requirements of a project early in the project development process, to allow sufficient time so as not to delay the timely use of funds. Performing a field review early in the project

Proposed Policy

Require a field review within 6 months of programming for all federal-aid projects receiving funding through the STIP, STP, CMAQ TEA programs that are subject to SB 45, AB 1012 or regional obligation deadlines. The requirement would not apply to projects for which a field review would not be applicable (FTA transfers, customer service projects and planning activities).

Potential Policy Enforcement

Failure for a project sponsor to make a good-faith effort in scheduling and obtaining a field review from Caltrans Local Assistance within six months of programming would result in the following:

- o Loss of funding eligibility for project sponsor in the next programming cycle;
- o Project funding becomes ineligible for future swapping or extensions;
- Project Manager required to take Caltrans sponsored Federal-Aid Local Assistance course.

• Regional Obligation Deadline

Delivery Issue

MTC has adopted a policy requiring the obligation of RSTP, CMAQ and TEA funds one year earlier than the requirements of AB1012. This policy is intended to ensure that no funds are lost to the region as a result of not meeting Federal or State requirements as noted below.

Federal Requirements (**TEA-21**) - STP, CMAQ and TEA funds (among other programs) must be obligated within 4 years of apportionment. Funds not obligated are lost to the state.

State Requirements (**AB-1012**) - Regional STP, CMAQ and TEA funds must be obligated within 3 years of apportionment. Funds not obligated are lost to the region.

Region Requirements (MTC Resolution No. 3239) - Regional STP, CMAQ and TEA funds must be obligated within 2 years of programming. Funds not obligated return to MTC for reprogramming.

However, as a result of the success of the policy, MTC has delivered its apportionments well in advance of the OA available to the region, resulting in over \$50 million in project funding waiting for additional OA in order to proceed.

Funds not obligated by the regional deadlines are returned to MTC for reprogramming. MTC informs members of the Bay Area Partnership of the project delivery requirements and pending deadlines. MTC does not grant any extensions to the regional deadline. MTC has taken an informal position that it will not request extensions from the CTC for any STP, CMAQ and TEA funds

• Program and Deliver to Apportionment

Delivery Issue

MTC has adopted a policy to program to apportionment rather than the level of Obligation Authority (OA). This allows for some projects to fail, without affecting overall program delivery. Programming to apportionment is also consistent with the provisions of AB 1012 which require delivery based on apportionment levels rather than OA levels. With the regional delivery strategies currently in place, project delivery is nearly 100 percent, resulting in an annual demand for project obligation at the full apportionment level rather than the OA level. The nearly 100 percent delivery rate in combination with the regional obligation deadlines that are not tied to the actual availability of OA, has resulted in the Region reaching its OA limit well in advance of the apportionment being made available by FHWA. This has caused many projects to be delayed, as they wait for OA, which may not materialize until next year.

Proposed Policy

Continue with the regional policy of programming to apportionment. However, manage the programming with the expected delivery (obligation) to better match the expected availability of OA. Each programming cycle, corresponding delivery deadlines, should program with consideration of the annual apportionment level (and corresponding available OA). Key provisions of the Programming to Delivery Levels Polcies include" To insure sufficient OA is available to meet the annual programming to full

apportionment, MTC will work with Caltrans HQ Local Assistance to allow MTC to "advance" ten percent of the following year's apportionment, or access unused local OA from other regions of the state.

- o Loss of funding eligibility for project sponsor in the next programming cycle;
- o Project funding becomes ineligible for future swapping or extensions;
- Project Manager required to take Caltrans sponsored Federal-Aid Local Assistance course.

Potential Policy Enforcement

- Regional Obligation deadline of June 30 (advanced 3 months from current schedule) however this would add to STIP rush.
- Complete Obligation request packages due to Caltrans Local Assistance March 30 (3 months prior to obligation deadline).
- For R/W and Construction phases, complete environmental packages due to Caltrans 6-12 months prior to Obligation Deadline (depending on project type).
- Projects to be fully invoiced and closed out within thee years of obligation of construction funds extensions to five years if necessary.
- Project sponsors with projects inactive for more than 3 (or 5) years may not receive additional funding (or obligations) until inactive projects are cleared up, or a firm commitment date provided for final close out or other activity.
- Program TIP projects in the year to be obligated similar to STIP programming.
- For FHWA projects project sponsor must have a 'certified' Project Manager assigned to project in order to be eligible to receive funding 'certified' could mean the project manager had taken the "Local Assistance Federal –Aid Project Development Course" within the past 2-3 years, or within the next 6-months.
- Additional funding for consultant services for environmental review and processing.
- Central Delivery Policy and Procedures that also serves as regional funding requirement Guidelines.